

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 00383 101618Z

50

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03 DPW-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DRC-01

/140 W

----- 064677

R 101550Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2640

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 0383

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VT SY IS

SUBJECT: VATICAN INTEREST IN SYRIAN-HELD ISRAELI POW'S

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

BEIRUT ALSO PASS DAMASCUS

VATICAN DESK OFFICER FOR MIDDLE EAST INFORMED US JAN. 10 THAT
PAPAL PRO-NUNCIO IN DAMASCUS HAS, UNDER INSTRUCTIONS FROM
ROME, MADE SEVERAL DEMARCHES WITH SYRIAN GOVERNMENT ON BEHALF
OF ISRAELI MILITARY PRISONERS BEING HELD BY SYRIANS. SOURCE
SAID THAT VARIOUS JEWISH RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN ISRAEL, AS WELL
AS ISRAELI EMBASSY ROME, HAD REQUESTED VATICAN TO USE ITS
INFLUENCE ON BEHALF OF ISRAELI POW'S. SYRIAN FOREIGN OFFICE
OFFICIALS WITH WHOM PRO-NUNCIO SPOKE SAID SYRIA WAS UNWILLING
TO PROVIDE LIST OF ISRAELI PRISONERS OR DISCUSS THEIR RELEASE
AS LONG AS ISRAEL REFUSED TO ABIDE BY GENEVA CONVENTION COVERING
CIVILIAN POPULATIONS. PRO-NUNCIO UNDERSTOOD THIS TO REFER TO
ISRAELI TREATMENT SYRIAN NATIONAL FORMERLY RESIDENT IN GOLAN
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AREA. SOURCE SAID THAT PRO-NUNCIO EXPECTED TO MAKE FURTHER

DEMARCHE IN NEAR FUTURE. VOLPE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POW, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005